Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC) with Mauritius but not with Bermuda. Amendments to the Indo-Mauritius DTAC to prevent its misuse and enhance exchange of information, including banking information, are being pursued through the Joint Working Group constituted for this purpose.

(d) It is not possible to assess whether European and American initiatives targeting tax havens will have any impact on investment flow to India.

Likely decrease in wages

†3364. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has paid attention towards the report of the World Bank wherein it has been said that there is likelihood of decrease in amount earned as wages in developing countries in 2009;

(b) if so, the likelihood of reduction in the said amount on the basis of the report; and

(c) the effect on the amount coming to India as a result of this reduction and the country from where the reduction in amount will be maximum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) Report of the World Bank, as referred in the Question, indicating likelihood of decrease in amount earned as wages in developing countries in 2009, could not be identified.

Increase in prices of consumable goods

†3365. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite a fall in inflation, there is a huge increase in prices of daily consumable goods;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures/steps taken by Government to curb unprecedented increase in prices of consumer goods, vegetables and fruits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The overall monthly average Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation was 4.9 per cent in January 2009. It declined to 1.2 – 1.3 per cent in March – April, 2009 and further to 0.4 per cent (Provisional) in May, 2009. It becomes negative in June, 2009 to (-) 1.4 per cent (Provisional). Despite fall in overall inflation, inflation in some of the food products and items of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.